

SN. 10/090,476

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. MATS:037

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are now pending in this application for which applicants seek reconsideration.

Amendment

Claims 1-3 and 8-10 have been amended to improve their form and clarity. Specifically, independent claims 1 and 8 clarify that the end face comprises the surface of a core sheet that, when the divided stator members are assembled to form the stator, either faces the rotor or forms an outer surface of the stator member facing opposite to the rotor. New claims 15-18 have been added to further define the present invention. New independent claim 15, similar to claim 1, calls for a stator member comprising a plurality of core sheets laminated and bonded at least at a portion of one of the inner rim and outer rim thereof. Again, for clarity, claim 15 defines the inner and outer rims. No new matter has been introduced.

Art Rejection

Claims 1-4, 7-11, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Hirano (USP 5,729,072), and claim 5, 6, 12, and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hirano in view of Torossian (USP 4,103,195). Applicants traverse these rejections because, in contrast to the examiner's understanding, Hirano does not disclose or teach forming a stator member by bonding its laminated end face (i.e., inner or outer rim). What Hirano discloses is that, instead of welding the preformed stator members together at the outer end portions of the dividing surfaces, the preformed stator members can be bonded at the same location, which is identified by a bonding layer 26. Hirano is silent regarding how the individual stator members are each formed. Torossian discloses forming a stator core by stacking the core sheets with an insulating adhesive between the sheets, as illustrated in Fig. 3. Torossian thus does not alleviate Hirano's shortcomings since it does not teach bonding the inner or outer rim thereof.

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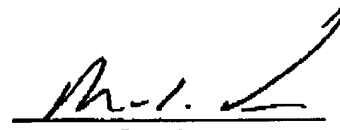
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Conclusion

Applicants submit that claims 1-18 patentably distinguish over the applied references and thus urge the examiner to issue an early Notice of Allowance. Should the examiner have any issues concerning this reply or any other outstanding issues remaining in this application, applicants urge the examiner to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 01/31/03


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ATTACHMENT
MARKED UP VERSION

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-3 and 8-10 have been amended as follows:

--1. (Amended) A motor comprising:

a stator formed by assembling a plurality of divided stator members having teeth; and
a rotor facing said stator,

wherein each one of the divided stator members is formed by laminating a plurality of core sheets and bonding at least parts of end faces along a laminating direction of the cores sheets with an adhesive, and

wherein the end face comprises the surface of a core sheet that, when the divided stator members are assembled to form the stator, either faces the rotor or forms an outer surface of the stator member facing opposite to the rotor.

2. (Amended) [A] The motor of claim 1, wherein the laminated end faces of each one of the divided stator members are welded to fix the core sheets with each other at parts of the teeth except [a section] the laminated end faces facing said rotor.

3. (Amended) [A] The motor of claim 1, wherein [laminated end faces of] each one of the divided stator members [are] is welded to fix the core sheets with each other at back faces of the teeth.--

--8. (Amended) A compressor incorporating a motor, wherein said motor comprising:
a stator formed by assembling a plurality of divided stator members having teeth; and
a rotor facing said stator,

wherein each one of the divided stator members is formed by laminating a plurality of core sheets and bonding at least parts of end faces along a laminating direction of the cores sheets with an adhesive, and

wherein the end face comprises the surface of a core sheet that, when the divided stator

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members are assembled to form the stator, either faces the rotor or forms an outer surface of the stator member facing opposite to the rotor.

9. (Amended) The compressor of claim 8, wherein the laminated end faces of each one of the divided stator members are welded to fix the core sheets with each other at parts of the teeth except [a section] the laminated end faces facing said rotor.

10. (Amended) The compressor of claim 1, wherein [laminated end faces of] each one of the divided stator members [are] is welded to fix the core sheets with each other at back faces of the teeth.--

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